

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 054400

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ORIGIN AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /026 R

DRAFTED BY: FAS:FMD:L&LP:ADEATHERAGE:BLH

APPROVED BY: NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

FMD:L&LP:REMANNION:AGRIC

FMD:JCFOLTZ: AGRIC

AA:TRFREEMAN- AGRIC

NEA/ARN:MMAUGHAN

STATE (BY PHONE)

AGRIC: ERBEVIS

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P 051756Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

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KUWAIT NOT ADDEE - KUWAIT PUT IN MARCH 8 POUCH TO BAGHDAD FOR ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, EPAP IZ

SUBJECT: MARKET SURVEYS FOR U.S. ANIMAL FATS AND PROTEINS

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 245 (B) STATE 32546 (NOTAL)

1. APPRECIATE RESPONSE AND SUGGESTION IN REFTEL. HOWEVER, WE STILL DESIRE THAT NRA/FAS TEAM VISIT IRAQ (AL BASRAH AND BAGHDAD) FOR FOUR WORKING DAYS FROM ABOUT APRIL 30 - MAY 6. IN VIEW USINT OFFICE SITUATION EXPECTED AT THAT TIME, TEAM REQUESTS ONLY MINIMAL

SUPPORT -- HOTEL RESERVATIONS, FEW APPOINTMENTS AND POSSIBLY A SHORT DEBRIEFING SESSION WITH USINT ON LAST DAY. FURTHER, TEAM INTERESTED IN OBTAINING SERVICES MRS. AZAWI ON A DAILY FEE BASIS FOR ALL FOUR DAYS IF POSSIBLE. PERHAPS SHE COULD ARRANGE TEAM APPOINTMENTS, RELIEVING USINT OF THIS, AND BE WITH TEAM IN BOTH AL BASRAH AND BAGHDAD AS INTERPRETER/CON-
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PAGE 02 STATE 054400

SULTANT AT A FEE OF APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 100 PER DAY.

(DEPENDING ON USINT RECOMMENDATION) PLUS TRAVEL, LODGING AND FOOD EXPENSES. WE UNDERSTAND AL BASRAH, AS IRAQ'S MAJOR PORT, IS A CENTER FOR FATS AND OIL PROCESSING KE.G. SOAP AND CHEMICAL MANUFACTURE) AS WELL AS STORAGE, HANDLING AND TRANSPORT HUB FOR IMPORTED FATS AND OILS. IS THIS CORRECT? AND WOULD TWO DAYS VISIT THERE AND TWO DAYS IN BAGHDAD BE APPROPRIATE BALANCE OF TIME USE?

2. SINCE SENDING REF B, DECISION MADE TO ADD RENDERING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE TO TEAM (WHICH WILL NOW CONSIST OF ONE NRA STAFF MEMBER, ONE FAS REPRESENTATIVE, AND ONE RENDERING INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE) IN ORDER FOR INDUSTRY BENEFIT FROM FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE, MAKE TRADE CONTACTS, AND ACQUIRE "FEEL" OF THE MARKETS IN COUNTRIES VISITED. THE INDUSTRY NOW FEELS STRONGLY ABOUT ITS CLOSER PARTICIPATION IN THESE SURVEYS, AND THUS DOES NOT WANT TO CONTRACT FOR THEM OR HAVE THEM CONDUCTED SOLELY BY EMBASSIES.

3. WE NOW IN FINAL STAGES OF FIXING ITINERARY AND PURCHASING TICKETS FOR THE FIVE COUNTRY TRIP (IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT, SYRIA AND HOPEFULLY IRAQ) WHICH WILL BEGIN WITH DEPARTURE FROM U.S.A. ON OR ABOUT APRIL 6. REQUEST ASAP USINT COMMENTS ON FOREGOING PROPOSAL IN VIEW USINT SITUATION CITED REF A. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FATS, MARKET SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE054400
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FAS:FMD:L
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760084-1141
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760389/aaaadagt.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AGR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BAGHDAD 245, 76 STATE 32546
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 JUN 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARKET SURVEYS FOR U.S. ANIMAL FATS AND PROTEINS
TAGS: EAGR, EPAP, IZ, US
To: KUWAIT
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006